Fort David A. Russell Veterinary Hospital
(Francis E. Warren Air Force Base,
Building 329)
Southeast corner Third Street and Second
Avenue South
Cheyenne
Laramie County
Wyoming

HABS No. WYO-66

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY HABS No. WYO-66

FORT DAVID A. RUSSELL VETERINARY HOSPITAL
(FRANCIS E. WARREN AIR FORCE BASE, BUILDING 329)

Location: Southeast corner Third Street and Second Avenue South, Francis E. Warren Air Force Base, Cheyenne, Laramie County, Wyoming.
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: (USGS Cheyenne North Quadrangle Map) 13.512330.4555140.

Present Owner: United States Department of Defense.

Present Use: Headquarters, Wyoming Civil Air Patrol.

Statement of Significance: This is a large building typical of the stable (buildings) constructed at Fort D. A. Russell during the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Built in accord with the stylistic precedent set by the 1885 building campaign at Fort Russell, this utilitarian structure demonstrates the importance of a consistent visual image to the planners of Fort Russell. In a practical sense, it was a key building for a military base dependent upon horses and mules, and played a critical role in the functioning of the Fort. At the high point of cavalry and supply activity, the occupants of the hospital were responsible for the well-being of two thousand mules and one thousand horses.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: The building was completed on August 29, 1908.

2. Architect: Unknown. The Veterinary Hospital was part of a building campaign whose aim was to completely rebuild the Fort. "It is important to realize that planning for construction at a given post seldom drew upon the talents of an architect or engineer. The Army had certain standards for various functions based on the numbers of men and animals to be served by the buildings involved." (Murray, Volume I, Page 61) "In a normal situation, the Army had a standard sequence of construction at a new post. The highest priority was for storehouses to shelter the unit's supplies. Second place went to barracks for the enlisted men of the command.

Next came quarters for the officers of the command, followed by stables for the animals, and so on down in declining order of priority." (Murray, Volume I, Page 63) Since the rebuilding campaign began in 1885, the late date of the hospital's completion is a clear indication of its rank in order of priority.

It is possible that a designer of the building may yet be discovered since it was known to be constructed according to plans supplied by the Quartermaster Generals Office, No. 166.

3. Original and subsequent owners: The property on which the Veterinary Hospital stands was occupied by the Armed Forces of the United States before any organized civilian settlement existed in the area, and has never been subject to a county or municipality as taxable land. There is consequently no chain of title available in the conventional sense of the term. Any change in ownership occurred internally among the various branches of the service.

A legal description of the property would be similarly difficult to determine in that the property would not have been platted in lots as would a town. The building is, however, contained within the boundary of the Fort Russell Historic District, a five-sided polygonal trapezoid roughly one square mile in area.

4. Builder, contractor, suppliers: This information is not available in Wyoming at this writing, but it is hoped that it may be obtained from the National Archives in the records of the Office of the Quartermaster General. In earlier years much of the construction would have been done by enlisted men, but the date of the structure and its complexity and quality suggest either a private contractor, or the Army Corps of Engineers.

5. Original plan and construction: An inventory of the structures belonging to the base was kept (begun about March 1, 1905) in which the following information was recorded upon the completion of the building:

Total cost: $25,184.75
Capacity: 41 animals
Material: wall: brick
roof: slate
foundation: concrete and stone
floors: earth-concrete and wood
Total floor area above basement, square feet: 6,197
Size: Main Building: 76' x 35' Wings: 116' x 35'
Basement: 15'-2" x 29'-3"
Height of first floor above ground: 12" and 18"

6. Alterations and additions: The inventory records only changes in plumbing and wiring and these notes cease on September 11, 1942. It is known, however, that three of the stalls at the southwest end of the building, along the southeast wall, were converted to six dog kennels during World War II. More recently, alterations included the renovation of the northwest half of the main block to provide offices which are now occupied by the Civil Air Patrol. Those alterations consisted of lowering ceilings, paneling walls and removing cabinets and shelves which were designed for the specific use of veterinary medicine. A two-wall partition was added to the western corner of the operating room, which occupies the other half of the main block.

There are no complete and detailed records of the building as it was when first completed in 1908; there are existing plans for the structure, however, dated May, 1904, which differ from the present structure only in detail. Notations on the plans indicate that the main (northeast) block differs from original specifications in the alterations mentioned above, but no walls were added or removed, save the operating room partition. There is a ceiling light noted in the plans for the operation room for which there is no physical or documentary evidence. The light shaft it was to have sealed was built according to plan.

The long stall wing appears on the plan with numerous notations as to specific uses for each stall. These include a "dark stall" for the treatment of eye diseases; a box stall with floors that slope for three feet toward the center, to prevent the animal from brushing against walls, for the treatment of skin diseases (the floor of this stall is at present level with that of the other stalls); a box stall with ramp and 12" sunken floor for foot diseases (also level with the other stalls at present); and a sequence of regular box stalls. There are four isolation stalls at the southwestern end of the building which were reportedly used for foaling mares. These are separated from the stall area proper by a masonry wall and double doors on the axial hall. They flank an exterior passage, two on each side, which is open to the air at the far end. The first three stalls at the northern-most corner of the corridor have been made into offices. By way of a final note on alteration, an addition was planned to extend the northwest end of the main block" in 1937. This was to have provided additional office and day-room space, and called for the removal of one interior wall of the structure and the construction of a new one a few feet to the southwest of the first. Plans for this addition exist and are dated October 28, 1937, from the Quartermaster's Office of Fort Francis E. Warren, but no construction was ever undertaken on the project.

B. Historical Events and Persons Connected with the Structure:

The nature of these buildings, (the Noncommissioned Officers House and the Veterinary Hospital), as individual units of a highly interrelated complex of structures (i.e. Fort D. A. Russell) makes a search for specific associations unfruitful. Fort Russell, of necessity, operated throughout its history in an organic fashion, such that no one building with the possible exception of the headquarters building was likely to be the scene of conspicuously important actions, nor are particularly important persons likely to be associated with one building rather than another. It is possible, of course, that some extraordinary events in veterinary medicine occurred at the hospital, or that some NCO who lived in the above house went on to greater things, but such information is difficult to obtain, as there appears to be no record of residents of the house. The structures under study were chosen as prototypical of a base which stressed a high level of visual image and uniformity, and as such they share in the larger, richer history of the Fort as a whole. Hence, there follows material which concerns Fort Russell as a whole, covering its initial role as a frontier outpost of cavalry and infantry, and its several metamorphoses.

The history of Fort Russell is intimately bound up with the anticipation and actualization of the settlement of the American West, especially as it pertains to the building of the transcontinental railroad. The sphere of action of its troops falls into several categories: the protection of the westward advance of the Union Pacific, and general control of the Indians (and the white population as well); less officially, it played a large role in the economic development of the region, especially the city of Cheyenne. The origins, development, and functioning of the Fort and the town are very closely connected.

Five years before the rails arrived at the site of Cheyenne, the charter of the Union Pacific Railroad called for the establishment of a major Division Point at the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains as it intersected with the route of the proposed track, this point to be determined by the President of the United States. The need for military protection of the route was self-evident, as were the advantages of locating the base of military activity at a proposed center of commercial and settlement activity. The site which was eventually chosen was near Denver (the only major settlement in the region to predate the rails), major wagon, stage, and migration routes north and south, and the principle northern mountain passes. Nationally, the point was roughly equidistant from

the Mexican and Canadian borders, and only a few hundred miles closer to Los Angeles than to New York.

The specific siting of the Fort was made on July 4, 1867, by General Greenville M. Dodge, chief engineer of the Railroad, and General C. C. Augur, commander of the Department of the Platte, and representative of the United States government. Their two separate parties met in the general vicinity of Cheyenne and established their respective base within three miles of each other, the Port being west of the town. The town had been previously designated "Cheyenne," after the local Indians; the Fort was named for Brevet-Major General David A. Russell, Major, Eighth Infantry, who had been killed at the battle of Opequan, Virginia, September 19, 1864.

General Augur laid out a roughly rectangular reservation which covered approximately 7,500 acres. The Fort has never been surrounded by a stockade, and hence is not a "fort" in the popular sense of the word. Construction began in August 1867; temporary log huts for enlisted men were ready for occupancy during October and November. The officers continued to live in tents until February 1868, when one-and-a-half-story frame quarters, doubly built, were made habitable. The present brick structures are the result of the 1885 building campaign to replace these original wooden structures, many of which had been lost in a series of fires over the years.

The Fort's mission was to patrol the region bounded by the Laramie Mountains on the West, the present site of Sidney, Nebraska, on the east, Denver on the south, and Fort Laramie on the north, with the object of preventing any interference with the layout and construction of the Union Pacific. It shared this duty in the Rocky Mountains with three other forts along the proposed route to the west, Sanders (1866), Steele (1868), and Bridger (privately constructed by traders in 1842 and acquired by the United States in 1858). These four forts were links in a chain of military outposts in the Rockies. Fort Russell enjoyed a position of prominence from the outset and is considered to have been the most important base in the Rockies from 1869 onward. It served as the major distribution point for troops throughout a vast area, a function facilitated by its proximity to the railroad and its central location nationally. The importance of the Fort's location was further underscored by the nearby construction, shortly after the Fort's establishment of Camp Carlin (known officially as Cheyenne Depot), a Quartermaster outpost for the distribution of supplies to the region. It soon became the largest military supply center within the nation's boundaries.

Six companies of cavalry and six companies of infantry were assigned to Fort Russell. The first troops to be based at the new reservation were the 30th Infantry and 2nd Cavalry under the command of General John D. Stevenson. These troops were in the field before construction of the Fort was completed. Their chief responsibility was railroad patrol and involved the protection of work gangs and working equipment. The Indians caused little trouble to the railroad after its completion, but troops were stationed along the right of way from May to November for several years. How much this relative peace with the Indians was due to the presence of the Fort is difficult to say, but it did exert a stabilizing influence upon the region. The bulk of significant military activity in which the troops of Fort Russell were involved did not occur until the 1870s.

During the mid 1870s the activities of the troops of Fort Russell increased markedly in response to the war-like overtures of the Sioux and Cheyenne in the regions to the north. The Indians, in turn, were stimulated by the marked increase in settlements and mining activity after the Civil War. The Indians had been shunted about by the Government for some time before this period, but the area was vast, and there was no lack of hunting, so there were relatively few complaints. The final blow came with the discovery of gold in the Black Hills of South Dakota, an area normally occupied by the Sioux. The area was not only one of the favorite hunting grounds of the Sioux, but was also sacred to them. Entry of white miners into the area was in flagrant violation of treaty stipulations. In July of 1875, General George Crook left Fort Russell under orders from General Sherman, to evict the intruders. Rumors of gold had spread quickly, however, and in spite of attempts to police the area, it became apparent that there was no real way to preserve the area for the Sioux. Mining towns began to develop. By autumn, the anti-reservation sentiment among the Indians had grown to such an extent that many Sioux left their assigned lands to go into the wilderness areas of the hills. The tribes gathered under Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse. They were given until January 1, 1876, to return to their reservations, but paid no attention to the order. Early in that year the hills were legally opened up to prospectors by President Grant. General Crook (commander of the Department of the Platte) was ordered to eject the Indians.

In Crook's first campaign, he was to move north from Fort Russell and meet with Generals Custer and Gibbon. The rendevous never took place, however, and Crook met instead with the Indians alone at Powder River. After an initially successful attack, Crook was forced to retreat. The Indians now were forewarned of the Govern-

ment's intentions and were able to prepare for all-out war. The following spring (1876) cavalry and infantry from Fort Russell engaged in a battle with the Indians on the Tongue River. General Crook, again commanding, was warned by Crazy Horse not to cross the river; as soon as he did so, he was attacked. The number of Sioux mustered for battle had been greatly underestimated.

The Indians withdrew shortly, deciding to engage in a major battle at a time and place of their own choosing. This occured on June 17th at the battle of the Rosebud, a long and bloody battle of attrition. The question of victory remains open, but many are inclined to give the day to the Indians. They had fought to an impasse, but Indian historians feel that the only reason the battle ended when it did was because the Indians were tired and hungry, and so returned home. The most serious of the casualties were taken to Fort Russell, via Fort Fetterman, where the rest of the troops had retreated.

Shortly after their retreat from the Rosebud, the entire force of Indians descended upon Custer at the Little Big Horn. The Sioux then dispersed to hunt for food to last them through the winter. At this point, General Crook sent out an expedition through the Yellowstone to search for hostiles. Supplies ran very low, and some of the cavalry horses were used for food. Captain Anson Mills was sent off with a detachment to search for food. While traveling toward Deadwood, the Mills detachment stumbled upon an Indian band under the old chief, American Horse, who had participated in the Rosebud battle. Mills attacked the Indians, and American Horse was killed. It was a small victory, but Mills was able to capture the Indians' supply of food. The troops returned to Fort Russell on November 2, 1876.

The Sioux problem was settled during the following winter under the direction of General Mills, due to his repeated raid on the Indians and the harsh weather. By the spring, Crazy Horse and the Sioux and Cheyenne had returned to their reservations to keep from starving, and Sitting Bull fled to Canada.

Troops from Fort Russell were involved in one more major Indian Campaign, the settlement of the Ute uprising on the White River in Colorado in the fall of 1879. The Utes had received a new agent, Meeker, whom they felt to be unsympathetic with their desires. They received no reply to their requests for a replacement for Meeker and took matters into their own hands to prevent him from further disrupting their way of life. The agent requested military aid, which came in the form of two companies

each from Fort Steele and Fort Russell. Upon its arrival this force was immediately attacked and forced to circle and remain near the Milk River. Aid was sent from Fort Russell which came under Colonel Merritt. Merritt broke all existing records for distance and time in a forced march of cavalry in getting there. The help was unneccessary, however; the Utes had captured a white woman and daughter and ceased fire to begin negotiations with the Department of the Interior.

By 1882, when internal, difficulties of military scope had virtually ceased to exist, many of the old Indian forts were abandoned by the peacetime military. Fort Russell was spared this because of its unique location, and was declared a permanent post by the Department of War in 1885. In that year it also received substantial funds for the construction of permanent brick buildings. Twenty-seven were constructed, and those which exist are the oldest extant structures at the present base. The following decades were marked by beautification and improvements at the fort, the planting of grass and trees. The buildings were a good deal more substantial and stylish than they had been before, and those of 1885 set the mode for all that were to come after. By the 1920s, Fort Russell was a substantial and attractive post, with green lawns and parades and tree-lined streets.

From that point onward, detachments from Fort Russell served in all the major military activities of the United States to the present. The Eighth Infantry served in Cuba during the Spanish-American War; the Wyoming National Guard was gathered at Russell and sent to Manila. Fort Russell was a training and mobilization center for World War I. During the Second World War it acquired a Quartermaster's Officer Candidate School and a prisoner of War Camp. In 1947, when the Air Force became a separate branch of the military, the base was given to the new service. The base became an Air Force training center and remained so until it became a Strategic Arms Control (SAC) Strategic Missile Headquarters.

Shortly after the Spanish American War Congress passed an act limiting the standing Army to 60,000, and for the second time in its history Fort Russell faced the prospect of abandonment. It was spared once more, this time not because of its strategic location, but because of the convincing arguments of its powerful friend, Wyoming Senator Francis W. Warren, a member of the military Affairs Committee. Warren said to the Congress:

> "Fort Russell is a well-built post, healthy, convenient, with good water supply, sewerage, etc. It is three miles

from the city of Cheyenne, but a railroad - the Cheyenne and Northern - passes directly through the post. There is a most excellent target range for artillary as well as infantry practice, and an immense sweep of advantageous ground for drill practice of any kind."

Warren went on to describe the grounds further, and to suggest minimal additions which might be made to bring the base completely up to date. A committee of the Adjutant General's Office recommended retention of Fort Russell in 1902, and in 1906 it was officially designated a permanent post.

On January 1, 1930, after the death of Senator Warren, the name of the base was changed to Fort Francis E. Warren by Presidential decree.

Under the military service system no individual is likely to serve at one place for more than a relatively short period of time. Nor can a place like Fort Russell lay sole claim to any individual, but must share its famous persons with other bases. The following is a list of people who attained unusual importance during their lives, and served at Fort Russell:

Billy Mitchell. The "father of the modern American Air Force" served at Fort D. A. Russell as Captain in the Army Signal Corps (the forerunner of the air force) in 1912. His dedication to the concept of air power led him into conflict with his superior officers, and eventually to his court-martial in 1925, but ultimately to the acceptance of the airplane as an integral part of this country's defense. His place of residence at Fort Russell was identified by a Mr. Lawrence Phipps of Denver, who claimed to have played polo with Mitchell at Fort Russell.

Mark Clark. Born May 1, 1896, in New York State, and graduated from West Point in 1917, Clark advanced through the ranks from the command of the Second Light Infantry (shortly after his commission) to the rank of general in the early 1940s. He served as Commanding General of the Fifth Army, Fifteenth Army Group, in Italy from 1943-45; as Commander in Chief, United States Occupation Forces in Austria; and United States High Commander in 1945. General Clark was appointed Deputy Secretary of State in 1947; and as Commander in Chief of the United Nations Forces in Korea, signed the armistice ending the Korean War. His assignment there is at present unknown.

Francis Emroy Warren. The man for whom Fort Russell was renamed after his death in November of 1929, Francis E. Warren is one of the most revered figures in Wyoming history, and was among the most popular and trusted men during Wyoming's territorial and early statehood days. His life in Wyoming was almost entirely dedicated to government: as a pioneer, he served as territorial Governor from 1885-1886, and from 1889-1890 when he was the first governor of the state. Warren also served terms as councilman and Mayor of Cheyenne. In 1892 he began the most significant phase of his career as United States Senator. He served in that body until his death, a term of 37 years and 4 days, a record unbroken until it was surpassed by Carl Hayden in 1964. As chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee from 1921-29, Warren was among the most powerful men in the country, and did all he could to serve the interests of his constituents; he became known as the great patronage dispenser of the West. He was the leader of the Republican Party in Wyoming for many years. Although Warren received the Congressional Medal of Honor for service during the Civil War in an important engagement near Port Huson, Louisiana, his association with Fort Russell was not in a military capacity. He was responsible for its survival during the various military cutbacks in the early part of this century; a friend in Congress was often more important than intrinsic strategic value. Warren understood quite well the economic importance of the fort in relation to Cheyenne and southeastern Wyoming, and did all he could to assure its contribution and growth.

Captain Charles Young. Stationed at Fort Russell in 1910, Young was at that time the highest ranking Black officer in the United States Military. The third Black ever to graduate from West Point, he served in Cuba in 1898 and eventually rose to the rank of Colonel. He remained at Fort Russell until the Ninth Cavalry, to which he was attached, left in September 1912. Early in 1912, 1st Lieutenant Benjamin O. Davis, the second ranking Black officer in America at the time, joined the Ninth. He had previously served the American Embassy in Monrovia, Liberia.

Black Regiments serving at Fort Russell were the 24th Cavalry (1898-99); the 10th Cavalry (1902-06) and the 9th Cavalry, mentioned above (1909-12).

C. Sources of Information:

1. Old views: The only old view at present is the photograph which accompanies the Fort Russell Building Inventory. This entry is assumed to have been made shortly after the building's

completion in 1908. The photograph is a view of the side and one flank. No changes in the building proper are visible, but the grounds have been altered from that time, mostly involving the removal of a paddock fence. Of the interior (where most alterations have occured) there are no known photographs. There are however, in the possession of the base Engineer's office, extensive blueprints and plans from the original construction. These include complete floor plans and elevation, with notes as to use and construction. The Inventory may be found either at Francis E. Warren Air Force Base, Base Engineer's Office, or at the Research Division (microfilm) of the Wyoming State Museum.

2. Bibliography:

a. Primary and unpublished sources:

The Inventory of Structures, begun in 1905, is available at the same office, and at the Research Division of the Wyoming State Museum, Cheyenne.

Murray, Robert A., A Brief History of Fort Fred Steele, Wyoming, prepared as part of a planning study for the Wyoming State Recreation Commission, manuscript available at the Recreation Commission, June 1972.

Nomination of Fort Russell for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, also to be found at the Wyoming Recreation Commission, 1969.

Plans to the Veterinary Hospital may be found only at the Office of the Base Engineer, Francis E. Warren Air Force Base, Cheyenne, Wyoming.

"Recommendations by the Wyoming State Archives and Historical Department in consideration of Fort Francis E. Warren Air Force Base as a National Historic Site" containing the text of recommendations (8 pages with 2 pages of clarification) and numerous photographs (63) including some old views, may be found in the files of the Wyoming Recreation Commission, Cheyenne.

b. Secondary and published sources:

Coutant, C. G. History of Wyoming (and the Far West), Vol. 1 and Vol. 2. (Ann Arbor University Microfilms Inc. by Argonaut Press Ltd., NYC, 1966) (first published 1899).

Kendall, Jane. "History of Fort Francis E. Warren," Annals of Wyoming.

Kirkus, Peggy Dickey. "Fort David A. Russell: A Study of its History from 1867 to 1890," Annals of Wyoming, Two Parts, October 1968 and April 1969.

Larson, T. A. History of Wyoming. (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1965).

Schubert, Frank N. The Black Regular Army Regiments in Wyoming, 1885-1912, Masters Thesis, University of Wyoming, Coe Library, University of Wyoming, Laramie.

Who's Who in America, 1972-73, Chicago.

Dictionary of American Biography, New York, 1936.

Prepared by John Hnedak
Historian
National Park Service
Summer 1974

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: The Veterinary Hospital is visually similar to military stables that were built at Fort Russell in the late nineteenth and the early twentieth centuries and is the last remaining example with the stalls intact. Internally it had special design features for the care of ailing horses and mules.

2. Condition of fabric: Good.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: T-shaped, 75' (seven-bay front) x 35' wide and 173'-3" (32 bays) long, one story with loft over some areas.

2. Foundations: Concrete.

3. Wall construction, finish and color: Smooth faced red brick, common bond.

4. Structural system, framing: Load-bearing brick with wooden post and beam, joists and rafter interior framing.

5. Chimneys: One brick chimney on the northwest side of the front wing.

6. Openings:

   a. Doorways and doors: Arched brick openings with wooden frames. There are similar large double doors at both the northeast (front) entrance and the southwest (rear) entrance. Each leaf is composed of three diagonally-beaded wooden panels. The rear doors slide and the front doors are hinged. A pedestrian door is set into the right-hand leaf of the front door. There is a ten-light semi-circular transom above the front entrance set in a brick arch with a horsehead keystone. The rear door has a flat head but is recessed within an arched opening. There is a single leaf door with four diagonally-beaded panels on the southeast elevation of the stable wing.

   b. Windows and shutters: Windows in the stable wing have segmentally-arched brick openings with wooden frames. Other windows have flat heads. Six-over-six light sashes in office area, eight-over-eight light double-hung sashes in operating room. Two-over-two light double-hung sashes in the upper part of the entrance passageway and in the loft over the operating room. Four light wooden swinging windows are in the upper part of the passageway in the stable area. Four-light sliding sashes are in each stall including the isolation stalls.

7. Roof:

   a. Shape, covering: Intersecting gable roofs covered with black slate.

   b. Cornice, eaves: Open eaves with exposed rafter ends which have a scroll profile. Rafter ends are double at each bay. There is a wooden fascia and molding on the gable rake and cornice.

   c. Dormers, cupolas, towers: Six large metal ventilators are on the ridge line of the roof.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans:

a. Basement: Located only under the office area and contains the heating equipment. A part of the original coal bin exists here. The floor is concrete.

b. First floor: The entrance is in the center of the building and opens into a large passageway. To the right of the passageway is a suite of four offices as well as a bath and gallery and stairs leading to the basement. The largest of these offices was originally the dispensary and the others were attendant offices and storage. At the left of the passageway through a large double door is the operating room. There is a large skylight in the center of this room immediately over the position where operations were performed. Tie down hooks on the walls were used to hold the horses down. There is a storage room in the operating room with wash up sinks. Across the rear of the passageway is the upper gallery where horses could be viewed as they were brought in. Under the gallery are two large sliding doors leading to the stable. The stable wing also has a central passageway between the stalls which is a continuation of the passage through the main block. Along each side is a concrete gutter with area drains to facilitate washing down the stalls. Just inside the stable on the left there are offices which were originally four box stalls for diseased animals. There is a passageway beyond these stalls which led to the corral on the southeast side of the building. Beyond this passageway are six stalls, six dog kennels, a work room and grain room. On the right side of the stable are two offices which were originally four screened box stalls. The remainder of the right side is occupied by seven box stalls and a hay room. At the rear of the stable is a passageway which opens on the southwest side. On either side of this passageway are two isolation stalls.

c. Second floor: A loft area located over the front entrance serves as the observation gallery for both the entrance passageway and the operating room. Above the hay and grain rooms are hay and grain lofts. A ladder leads up to each of these.

2. Stairways: The stairs to both the basement and the gallery are open risers without handrails. The stairway to the basement is beneath the stairway to the gallery.

3. Flooring: Flooring in the entrance passage, operating room and stable passageway is brick which has been chipped to prevent animals from slipping. In the office area the floors are covered with asphalt tile. The stalls have concrete floors and some have wooden plank laid over this. The lofts have wooden flooring.

4. Wall and ceiling finish: Walls are brick, plaster and beaded wooden siding. Ceilings in the operating room, isolation stalls, the hall in the office area and the open exterior passageway are all pressed metal. Dropped plaster ceilings have been installed in the offices. Offices created out of former stalls have beaded wooden ceilings. The stalls are open structures.

5. Doorways and doors: Interior doors in the entrance passageway have arched brick openings with wooden frames. The wooden doors have four panels. The doors in the offices are flush wooden doors with glass panels. Doors to the operating room are paneled with diagonal siding. The sliding doors into the stable are diagonally paneled. Box stalls along the west wall have sliding doors with a panel of diagonal wire mesh above a panel of diagonal siding. On the other stalls are wooden gates. The heavy wooden doors in the isolation stalls have independently operating top and bottom leaves. The top leaf has two panels of diagonal siding in a chamfered frame. The bottom leaf is vertical boards with superimposed X framing.

6. Special decorative features, trim, cabinet work: A cast stone horsehead is mounted in the brick archway above the main entrance. There are cast-iron wheel guards on either side of the entrance and exit doors and the interior doors leading to and from the stable passageway.

7. Mechanical equipment:

   a. Heating: Steam heat is supplied by a gas-fired unit in the basement. Originally, heating was provided by a coal-fired unit.

   b. Plumbing: Two large rectangular lavatories with oval bowls and turned profile legs are in the bath and operating rooms. These fixtures are original. The floor drains in the concrete gutter in the stable are connected to a catch basin system on the exterior.

c. Lighting: Flourescent and incandescent.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: The Veterinary hospital is located in the stable area of the original fort. It sits on the southeast corner of Third Street and Second Avenue S. facing northeast.

2. Historic landscape design: On the southeast of the building are two large concrete watering troughs that were in the corral. The iron brackets for the corral rails are located on the side of the building. At the rear of the building is a concrete wash down and tatoo pit with iron hitching post.

Prepared by John P. White
Project Supervisor
National Park Service
Summer 1974

PART III PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey in cooperation with the State of Wyoming through the Wyoming Recreation Commission and was financed with funds provided by the Wyoming State Legislature. Under the direction of John Poppeliers, Chief of the Historic American Buildings Survey, the project was completed during the summer of 1974 at the Historic American Buildings Survey Field Office, Cheyenne, Wyoming by John P. White, Project Supervisor (Professor, Texas Tech University), John D. Hnedak, Project Historian (Cornell University). Student Assistant Architects who prepared the measured drawings for the project were Thomas L. Amis, Jr. (University of Texas, Austin), Stephen O. Fildes (Texas Tech University), John T. Reddick (Yale University), and Paul S. Wheeler (University of Idaho). Photographs were taken by Jack E. Boucher, HABS staff photographer. This report was edited for HABS in 1977 by Candace Reed.

ADDENDUM TO:
FORT DAVID A. RUSSELL VETERINARY HOSPITAL
(Warren, Francis G., Air Force Base, Building 29)
Third Street and Second Avenue
Cheyenne
Laramie County
Wyoming

HABS No. WY-66

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XEROGRAPHIC COPIES OF COLOR TRANPARENCIES

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20001